

and there are varieties of ways in responding. One such way, during an economy in transition, is through a works progress administration, through WPA type jobs. But we are not at that point yet. Another way of responding is through enhancement of research and technological development, as was done in California and Massachusetts. For us to begin to commit the funds and financing in that arena would be a wise thing to do, however, the fruits of those labors, those labors will not bear fruit, I should say, for many years to come. A third way of responding is to say to our existing business community we want to keep you here, we want to make certain that we have provided you with the nourishment that you claim that you need so that you stay here. And in addition to that business community that is outside of Nebraska that would like to come here, and to that business community that is here and would like to expand, we want to say we will reward you. And the only way we can do it, frankly, are through tax incentives. That happens to be the path that we have chosen. While this very debate is going on now, the General Assembly in Missouri is discussing whether or not to exempt corporate jets from the Missouri personal property tax. And the reason the General Assembly in Missouri is discussing that is that ConAgra has a large subsidiary corporation in St. Louis, Banquet Foods. And ConAgra has contacted the Governor of Missouri, John Ashcroft, and has said, and has said, in the event, in the event that the Conway amendment sticks, this was the conversation of last week, we may need to come to St. Louis. And so the Missouri Legislature is sitting out there doing the same thing because it, too, is an economy in transition, as is Nebraska. It is saying what can we do to encourage business to come here and so on and so forth. And, yes, our business community does take advantage of all of that. But I think that at this time in our life in this state what we need to do is we need to make certain that we have the most favorable business climate that you can have, that is the short fix, that is the quick fix, that is the short-term approach, and then go on, raise taxes, appropriate the dollars to make certain we have good research, good technology in our universities, and then go on and develop a full employment program, and if it has to be a WPA type program, do a WPA type program, if it has to be a bonds for roads program...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: ...to put rural laborers to work, do a bonds for roads program. But you don't stop here, but you don't die before you start. So I would go ahead and suspend the